

## African American Tobacco Use Statistics

### ADULTS

#### Adult Tobacco Use

- Our most recent survey data showed that about 24.6% of African American adults smoke cigarettes.<sup>1</sup>

#### Quit Line

- 732 people who identified themselves as African American called the Quit Line within the past year.<sup>2</sup>

### YOUTH

#### Current Cigarette Smoking

- Our most recent survey data showed:<sup>3</sup>
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 3.3% African Americans, and 2.0% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade: 8.9% African Americans, and 7.8% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
  - 10<sup>th</sup> grade: 11.8% African Americans, and 13.0% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
  - 12<sup>th</sup> grade: 17.6% African Americans, and 19.7% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.

### PREGNANT WOMEN

#### Smoking During Pregnancy

- About 10.8% of pregnant African American women smoke during pregnancy, compared to 10.2% statewide.<sup>4</sup>
- About 370 infants are born each year to African American mothers who smoke during pregnancy.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Data are from the 2005 Department of Health Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). A 'current smoker' reports having smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and also responds "every day" or "some days" to the question "Do you smoke cigarettes now?" This estimate has a  $\pm 5.7\%$  margin of error – this means that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is most likely somewhere in this range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage.

<sup>2</sup> Data include counts of tobacco users, health care provider, and other callers seeking information from the Washington State Tobacco Quit Line between July 01, 2005 and June 31, 2006 who identified themselves as African American.

<sup>3</sup> Data for African Americans were collected from youth who participated in the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) in Fall 2004. The margins of error for estimates for African Americans are: 6<sup>th</sup> grade ( $\pm 2.2\%$ ), 8<sup>th</sup> grade ( $\pm 2.5\%$ ), 10<sup>th</sup> grade ( $\pm 3.7\%$ ), and 12<sup>th</sup> grade ( $\pm 5.9\%$ ). This means that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is somewhere in this range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage.

Data for Washington were collected as part of a statewide sample of youth for the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) in Fall 2004. The margins of error for estimates are: 6<sup>th</sup> grade ( $\pm 0.4\%$ ), 8<sup>th</sup> grade ( $\pm 1.0\%$ ), 10<sup>th</sup> grade ( $\pm 1.4\%$ ), and 12<sup>th</sup> grade ( $\pm 2.2\%$ ).

<sup>4</sup> Data are from 2004 Washington State Birth Certificates. The margin of error for African Americans is ( $\pm 1.1\%$ ); the margin of error for Washington State is ( $\pm 0.2\%$ ). Women who indicate that they smoke at all during pregnancy are classified as smokers. Health risk behaviors like smoking during pregnancy may be underreported due to growing social unacceptability of unhealthy behaviors during pregnancy.

<sup>5</sup> The number of infants born to African American mothers who smoke during pregnancy are calculated using an average of the births to African American mothers who report smoking on the Birth Certificate from 2001-2004. The estimate is rounded to the nearest factor of ten.